

# St. Thomas More Catholic Parish

210 Haddow Close, Edmonton, AB, T6R 2P3

Office: 780-434-6313 Rectory: 780-434-9483, Pastor's Cell: (emergency only) 780-907-7782

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**Pastor: Fr. Mitchell Fidyka**  
**Associate Pastor: Fr. Curtis Berube**  
**Permanent Deacons: Randy Abele, Chris Ashdown**  
Fall Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9 am – 2 pm

Website: <https://stm.caedm.ca>

Email: [communications.stm@caedm.ca](mailto:communications.stm@caedm.ca)

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## WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Saturday 5:00 pm (livestreamed)  
Sunday 8:00 am  
10:00 am  
12:00 pm  
5:00 pm

## WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Monday 9:00 am 6:00 pm  
Tuesday 9:00 am 6:00 pm  
Wednesday 9:00 am 6:00 pm  
Thursday 9:00 am 6:00 pm  
Friday 9:00 am 6:00 pm  
Saturday 9:00 am

## SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION

One hour before all morning and evening weekday Masses

## Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 5:00 pm  
First Friday 9:30 am - 3 pm

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### PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH OFFICE FOR INFORMATION ABOUT:

#### Pastoral Care

- Sacrament of the Sick: any day at any hour
- Regular pastoral visits can be arranged for the homebound ([pastoral1.stm@caedm.ca](mailto:pastoral1.stm@caedm.ca))

#### Baptism

- See Baptismal brochure in stand or look on website
- Parents & godparents are required to take preparation classes ([pastoral.stm@caedm.ca](mailto:pastoral.stm@caedm.ca))

#### Marriages

- Schedule an appointment before you book any other facilities ([pastoral.stm@caedm.ca](mailto:pastoral.stm@caedm.ca))
- An approved pre-marriage course is required
- A minimum of 4 months of notice is required

#### First Reconciliation and First Communion

- For baptized children 7 years of age and older
- Preparation classes are required ([pastoral1.stm@caedm.ca](mailto:pastoral1.stm@caedm.ca))
- See green sacrament brochure for details

#### Confirmation

- For those 11 years (& older) by Confirmation date
- Registrations for Confirmation 2020 Program start in May ([pastoral1.stm@caedm.ca](mailto:pastoral1.stm@caedm.ca))

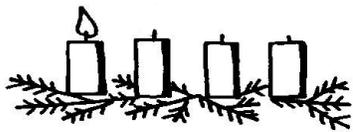
#### RCIA and RCIC (Adapted for Children 8-15 yrs.)

- For those who wish to learn more about the Catholic faith or who wish to become Catholic.
  - Classes start each fall ([pastoral.stm@caedm.ca](mailto:pastoral.stm@caedm.ca))
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#### Parish Staff:

Pastoral Associate: Christina Faitakis  
Pastoral Assistant: Shannon Van Soest  
Music Coordinator: Johanna Dietrich

Bookkeeper: Elvie Fermin-Chua  
Maintenance: Marian Ragac



# 1st Sunday of Advent

## November 29, 2020

**"Be alert at all times."**



Advent is a quietly reflective season of the church year. It reminds us that we live in the space between the first coming of Jesus in Bethlehem and the second coming of Christ in majesty. In this spiritual and historic interim, we try to catch signs or previews of that coming era of the Messiah. Jesus had something to say about all of this in today's gospel.

"Be on guard... the great day will suddenly close in on you like a trap ... so be on the watch. Pray. Be ready for that all-important moment." Jesus is warning us about getting so involved with the ordinary things in life that we forget about the more important things of life.

Be on guard! Watch! Pray! These are three important instructions. That's why Advent is such an important season in the liturgical year. The season of Advent is like the ancient Roman god Janus, for whom the month January is named. He is depicted in art as having two faces. One face looks backwards into the past; the other looks forward into the future. The season of Advent is like that. It looks backward into the past to the first coming of Jesus. It also looks forward into the future to his second coming.

*The Lord is coming. We are not afraid; He is our good Master.*

### Prepare the Way of the Lord

We have posted a new set of [prayers for Advent](#) on our website. Advent is a time of joyful preparation for the birth of our Saviour. What better way to prepare than to spend some extra time in prayer and meditation. Our world, our parish and we as individuals need prayer at this time. Instead of preparing with shopping, cooking and decorating, make this Advent season a deeply spiritual one. Make your family Advent wreath a gathering point for family prayer.

We encourage you to return to the celebration of the Eucharist. We are allowed to have the church at one third capacity so we have room for you and your families to come to Mass. The 5 pm Saturday, 8 am Sunday and 5 pm Sunday Masses have more room to accommodate additional attendees.

We can all do our part to end this health emergency. Follow the guidelines for home gatherings and wearing masks. Most of all, pray. Pray fervently and often, as individuals and families. With God's help, all will be well.

Fr. Mitch

### ADDITIONAL WEEKDAY MASSES

We wish to give people more opportunity to attend daily Mass. Starting **Monday, November 30th** there will be **two daily weekday Masses, Monday to Friday, at 9 am and 6 pm.** There is opportunity for confession the hour before each Mass.

### Our Offerings: Nov. 22.

Regular Sunday Collection: \$9,480  
 Together We Serve: \$ 310  
 Christmas Offering: \$ 100

		
Mon. November 30	9am	†Paul Williams
<b>ST. ANDREW</b>	6pm	Curtis Middleton
Tues. December 1	9am	†Bella Sayson
	6pm	†Christiane Peter Blanco
Wed. December 2	9am	Jan Dunnigan and family
	6pm	†Bella Elemento
Thurs. December 3	9am	†Maria Luisa Bustillo
	6pm	DeLuca Family
Fri. December 4	9am	†Natalia Rocheleau
	6pm	Pat Coe
Sat. December 5	9am	†Joseph Kuruvila
	5pm online	†Dick Dunnigan
Sun. December 6	8am	Cesar Alcasid (birthday blessing)
<b>2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</b>	10am	†Norma Cuario
	12pm	†Elle and Orok Families (thanksgiving)
	5pm	†Dick Dunnigan

### Next Sunday Readings:

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11, Psalm 85,  
 2 Peter 3:8-14, Mark 1:1-8

### Christmas Mass Schedule

#### Christmas Eve Mass - December 24

4:00pm, 6:00pm\*, 8:00pm, 10:00pm, 12:00am\* (midnight)

#### Christmas Day Mass - December 25

10:00am\*, 12:00pm

\* These Masses will also be livestreamed



THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

We begin the season of Advent and suggest *Advent: Rethinking the Season* for your [formed.org](http://formed.org) viewing. Advent is an odd season. Unlike most other liturgical seasons, it's a season that isn't about itself, but is instead about preparing for Christmas. But that reality often gets lost in the shuffle and stress of trying to find all the right gifts, decorations, and dinner ingredients. In this talk, Dr. Tim Gray uses storytelling and the readings of the Old Testament to explain that we need to live the 'pre-season' of Advent well. Take time in this time of waiting to prepare spiritually for Christmas.



### Prayers for the Sick

Yvonne Savoie Farry

May she receive the peace & healing of the Lord.



Updated Archdiocese guidelines have reduced the number of attendees for Baptisms, Funeral Masses, and Wedding liturgies to 10 people.



### Prayers for the Deceased

†Barb Kozoriz

Eternal rest grant unto her, O Lord  
And let perpetual light shine upon her.



### Adoration for Life

We join our hearts in prayer for: pregnant women and the unborn, all who have or might be involved in an abortion or assisted suicide, politicians, medical personnel, those who work in pro-life help and healing for the wounded and confused, the vulnerable and elderly, the bereaved and mourning, for God's forgiveness and pardon for the sins of our nation, for light to shine in the darkness of minds and hearts that all may see God's glory in his sacred gift of life and our call to protect it.

**Wednesday, Dec. 2, 6-7pm, including the Rosary Mass at 7pm with the Knights of Columbus.**  
**St John the Evangelist Parish (led by Fr. Dean Dowle)**  
**9830 148 St., Edmonton, T5N 3E8**



We congratulate and continue to pray for our **St. Boniface and St. Teresa School** children that celebrated the

**Sacraments of Reconciliation** and **First Holy Communion** on Sunday, November 22

Juliana Rose B., Madison Elizabeth D., Nathan Shanel G.,  
Chau Tran Khanh N., Nhu Tran Khanh N.,  
Aoife Clare Maha P., Easton William Gilles B.,  
Jordan William Gerard B., Adrian Gabriel B.,  
Iremide Fabian F., Everly Teresita G., Isla Winter G.,  
Nielmarco Merida J., Elizabeth Grace O. Rayne Suarez Y.,  
Sophie Antoinette A., Jessica Julie B., Elena Margaret B.,  
Alessandro Glenn F., Tristan Noah F., Brady Michael G.,  
Amelia Stefania H., Mason Alexander K., Jordan Charles L.,  
Austin Matthew P., Duncan Robert S., and Alexander T.

May you always be close to Jesus!

With colder weather now upon us, it is important to arrive on time for Mass. Welcome tables have been arranged to allow more people to arrive out of the cold and starting next week, when the church is full and after Mass begins, the glass doors at the back of the church will be closed. Latecomers will be asked to stand in the areas to the east or west sides of the sanctuary – we have socially distanced areas marked on the carpet on both sides. Thank-you for your understanding.

The **GIVING TREE** is a St. Thomas More Advent tradition. This year, more than ever, the support of our parish is needed for the women and children of **Lurana Shelter**, a refuge for those fleeing from family violence. We are unable to have you take stars and angels from the Giving Tree. Instead refer to the list of needed items beside the tree, on the parish website or in the bulletin. **All items must be new, not promoting violence, and unwrapped.** Drop off your gifts by the Giving Tree located in the gathering space of the church during the weeks of Advent up **until December 20.** Giving gifts cards is strongly encouraged (suggested maximum amount per card is \$25) and, if purchased from the Knights of Columbus, results in double giving (contact Ken at [kshivak@shaw.ca](mailto:kshivak@shaw.ca) or 780-434-0632 to purchase gift cards). Drop off gift cards in the locked box outside the parish office. The Catholic Women's League is coordinating this project once again and thanks all for their support.



### GROCERY CARD PROGRAM

In prior years December has been our best sales month. During these Covid times you can make a difference. Please order cards for your family, extended family, people in need and charities. Contact Ken Shivak at 780-707-5960 or Wally Streit at 780-988-8719.

*With our gratitude - Christmas Blessings!*



The ladies in the Prayer Shawl Ministry have been busy knitting and praying. We have a wonderful selection of blessed prayer shawls available to choose from. Giving a prayer shawl to someone is sharing God's love. There is no charge for a shawl however a monetary donation may be made. If you are interested in giving a prayer shawl to someone please contact Linda at 780-920-9359.

The **Saint Joseph's Hospital Auxiliary** online auction **November 23 at 9 am, to Sunday, December 6 at 6 pm**

To register and participate in the auction, please go to <https://32auctions.com/SJHAFund2020>

Payment accepted with a major credit card.

*Thank you for your participation and support.*



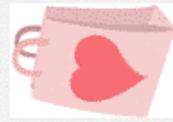
# GIANNA CENTRE ADVENT PROJECT



## PROGRAMS

### Pre/Post Natal Wellness Check Supplies

- PPE – surgical gloves, masks, patient gown, table paper
- Maternity Vitamins
- Lactation Supplements
- Breast Pumps
- Baby Vitamin D drops
- Exercise Balls
- Measuring/Charting materials
- Ultrasound gel



### New Mom Postpartum Pack

- Sanitary Pads, Disposable Maternity Panties, Breast Pads & Nipple Cream
- Body Wash, Deodorant, Shampoo, Comb
- Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Energy Bar



### Class Supplies – Discovering Your Dignity, Financial Literacy

- Journals, Writing Utensils, Client Workbooks
- Adult Bibles

## NEWBORN BABY LAYETTE

### Layette Contents

- 3-5 newborn outfits (sleepers, onesies, shirts & pants, dresses)
- Hats, mitts, socks
- Soothers & teething rings, bottles
- Vitamin D drops
- Diapers & diaper cream
- 3 receiving blankets
- Baby shampoo, soap, lotion, wash cloths
- Baby comb, nail clippers
- Toys
- Blessed Bible



*A layette is a gift to celebrate the birth of a new baby. Gianna centre layettes are customized according to baby's age & gender.*

## CHRISTMAS HAMPER

### Hamper: Groceries & Baby items

- Groceries for one week of meals & Christmas dinner
- Diapers, wipes, clothes, toys, books, baby items



## CLIENT TRANSPORTATION

### Pack of 10 ETS Bus Tickets

### Cab fare for Baby's Birth

*ETS and cab fares help some clients attend their Gianna Centre visits, doctor's appointments, and a safe ride to-and-from the hospital for baby's birth.*



Gianna Centre offers a wide range of programs and services to families and pregnant women in need.

During this Advent season, if you wish to support clients and families, you can donate by: **1) purchasing your preferred items and dropping them off to Gianna Centre, 2) giving a directed donation cheque (Attn: Gianna Centre, 9040 95 Ave Edmonton, AB T6C 1Z3), or 3) by donating gift cards from Grocery Stores, Walmart, Toys R Us, or Children's Place. Thank you for your generosity!**